

**Listing of Claims.**

Please amend the claims as shown below by deleting the material indicated by strike-through and adding the underlined material. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding ROC1, said nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) a nucleic acid sequence consisting of having the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1**;
  - (b) a nucleic acid sequence that hybridizes to the complement of the a nucleic acid consisting of the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1** (a) above under stringent conditions defined by a wash of 50% Formamide, 5X Denhardt's solution, 0.5% SDS and 1X SSPE at 42°C, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that forms a complex with a cullin protein and/or has ubiquitin ligase activity;
  - (c) a nucleic acid sequence that differs from the nucleic acid sequence of (a) or (b) above due to the degeneracy of the genetic code; and
  - (d) a nucleic acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1**, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that forms a complex with a cullin protein and/or has ubiquitin ligase activity.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a ROC1 protein consisting of having the amino acid sequence given herein as **SEQ ID NO:2**.

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1,

wherein said nucleic acid sequence has consists of the nucleotide sequence given herein as **SEQ ID NO:1**.

5. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A cell comprising containing an expression vector according to Claim 5.

7. (Currently Amended) A cell comprising containing an expression vector according to Claim 6 and capable of expressing ROC1.

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Claim 8-12 (Withdrawn)

13. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide that is 8 to 50 nucleotides in length and is completely complementary to a portion of the nucleic acid sequence encoding ROC1 of Claim 1 and having a length sufficient to hybridize thereto under physiological conditions.

14. (Currently Amended) The A-DNA encoding an antisense oligonucleotide of Claim 13, wherein said oligonucleotide is DNA.

15. (Currently Amended) An expression vector encoding comprising an antisense oligonucleotide according to Claim 13.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of **SEQ ID NO:2**, or a fragment thereof, comprising

(a) culturing a host cell comprising containing an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) a nucleic acid consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (ii) a nucleic acid that differs from the nucleic acid of (i) above due to the degeneracy of the genetic code; and
- (iii) a segment of at least 60 nucleotides of the nucleic acid of (i) or (ii) above;

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containing at least a fragment of the polynucleotide sequence encoding ROC1 under conditions suitable for the expression of the protein; and

(b) recovering the protein from the host cell culture.

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Claims 17-48 (Withdrawn)